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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, November 16, 2009, at 2 p.m.

Senate

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2009

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable RICHARD J. DURBIN, a Senator from the State of Illinois.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

God of grace and glory, pour Your power on Your people. Lord, as we again approach our annual honoring of military veterans, we ask You to bless them and their loved ones with the special shield of Your favor. May our gratitude for their service give them the sense of fulfillment that comes from knowing that they will always be remembered for their sacrifices. Bless also their families and loved ones, for they too have contributed much to our liberty.

Today we again ask You to strengthen those still grappling with the Fort Hood tragedy and those who have lost loved ones in combat. Embrace them with Your peace and comfort. As our Senators strive today to fulfill Your purposes, use their labors to produce legislation worthy of the service of those whose devotion to duty help keep America strong.

We pray in the Name of Him who came to set us free. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable RICHARD J. DURBIN led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, November 10, 2009.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable RICHARD J. DURBIN, a Senator from the State of Illinois, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. DURBIN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the prayer, having been led by Admiral Black, who spent his entire life counseling those in the military who had different issues, set the tone this morning for a moment of silence we are going to have.

One of the worst tragedies that has ever taken place on a military installation was at Fort Hood a couple of days ago. Thirteen are dead. We have a number seriously wounded. For the tens of thousands who are at that post and

other installations around our country and around the world, certainly it is in keeping with our thoughts for those who have fallen in Iraq and Afghanistan, and certainly the demonstration that we saw with the first responders at Fort Hood and the tragedy that ensued there.

Our thoughts are with those who have been so badly injured in body and mind.

I now ask the Chair to announce a moment of silence.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will be a moment of silence to honor the victims of the attack at Fort Hood on November 5.

[Moment of Silence.]

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following leader remarks, the Senate will be in a period for the transaction of morning business for 1 hour, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each. The majority will control the first 30 minutes and the Republicans will control the next 30 minutes. Following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs appropriations bill. The Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. today

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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